LCO No. 4880

AN ACT PROTECTING INTERNS FROM WORKPLACE HARASSMENT AND DISCRIMINATION.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2015*) (a) For purposes of this section:
- 3 (1) "Employee" means any individual engaged in service to an 4 employer in a business of such employer and receives compensation 5 for such service;
- 6 (2) "Employer" means any person engaged in business in the state, 7 who provides a position for an intern;
- 8 (3) "Intern" means a person who performs work for an employer for 9 the purpose of training, provided (A) the employer is not committed to 10 hire the person performing the work at the conclusion of the training 11 period; (B) the employer and the person performing the work agree 12 that the person performing the work is not entitled to wages for the 13 work performed; and (C) the work performed (i) supplements training 14 given in an educational environment that may enhance the 15 employability of the person, (ii) provides experience for the benefit of

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- performed under the supervision of the employer or an employee of
- 18 the employer, and (v) provides no immediate advantage to the
- 19 employer providing the training and may occasionally impede the
- 20 operations of the employer; and

- (4) "Sexual harassment" means any unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors or any other conduct of a sexual nature when (A) submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an intern's internship; (B) submission to or rejection of such conduct by an intern or a person seeking an internship is used as the basis for workplace decisions affecting such intern or person; or (C) such conduct has the purpose or effect of substantially interfering with an intern's work performance or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive working environment.
 - (b) No employer or agent of an employer shall:
- (1) (A) Refuse to hire any person seeking an internship or allow any intern to work; (B) bar or discharge any intern from providing internship services; or (C) discriminate against such intern in terms, conditions or privileges of service to the employer, because of the intern's race, color, religious creed, age, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, marital status, national origin, ancestry, present or past history of mental disability, intellectual disability, learning disability or physical disability, including, but not limited to, blindness;
- (2) Advertise any internship opportunity in a manner that would (A) restrict such internship to; or (B) discriminate against, persons of a certain race, color, religious creed, age, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, marital status, national origin, ancestry, present or past history of mental disability, intellectual disability, learning disability or physical disability, including, but not limited to, blindness;
- (3) Discharge, expel or otherwise discriminate against an intern

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- 48 because such intern has opposed any discriminatory employment
- 49 practice or because such intern has filed a complaint or testified or
- assisted in any proceeding under section 46a-82, 46a-83 or 46a-84 of the
- 51 general statutes; or
- 52 (4) Engage in any sexual harassment toward any intern or person 53 seeking an internship.
- 54 (c) The provisions of subdivisions (1) and (2) of subsection (b) of this 55 section shall not apply in the case of a bona fide occupational 56 qualification or need.
- 57 Sec. 2. Subdivision (8) of section 46a-51 of the general statutes is
- 58 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective
- 59 *October 1, 2015*):
- 60 (8) "Discriminatory practice" means a violation of section 4a-60, 4a-
- 61 60a, 4a-60g, 46a-58, 46a-59, 46a-60, 46a-64, 46a-64c, 46a-66, 46a-68, 46a-
- 62 68c to 46a-68f, inclusive, or 46a-70 to 46a-78, inclusive, subsection (a) of
- 63 section 46a-80 or sections 46a-81b to 46a-81o, inclusive, or section 1 of
- 64 this act;

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	October 1, 2015	New section
Sec. 2	October 1, 2015	46a-51(8)

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